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PATENT  
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: FRANZ NIEDEREDER ET AL-1 (PCT)

PCT No.: PCT/AT00/00221 FILED: AUGUST 16, 2000

TITLE: WELDING UNIT EQUIPPED WITH A COMMUNICATIONS INTERFACE AND METHOD FOR OPERATING THE WELDING UNIT

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

**BOX PCT**

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 2327  
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to Examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, after the title, please insert as follows:

--CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

Applicants claim priority under 35 U.S.C. §119 of Austrian Application No. A 1408/99 filed August 16, 1999. Applicants also claim priority under 35 U.S.C. §120 of PCT/AT00/00221 filed August 16, 2000. The international application under PCT article 21(2) was not published in English.--

Page 1, after line 7, please insert the following paragraphs: